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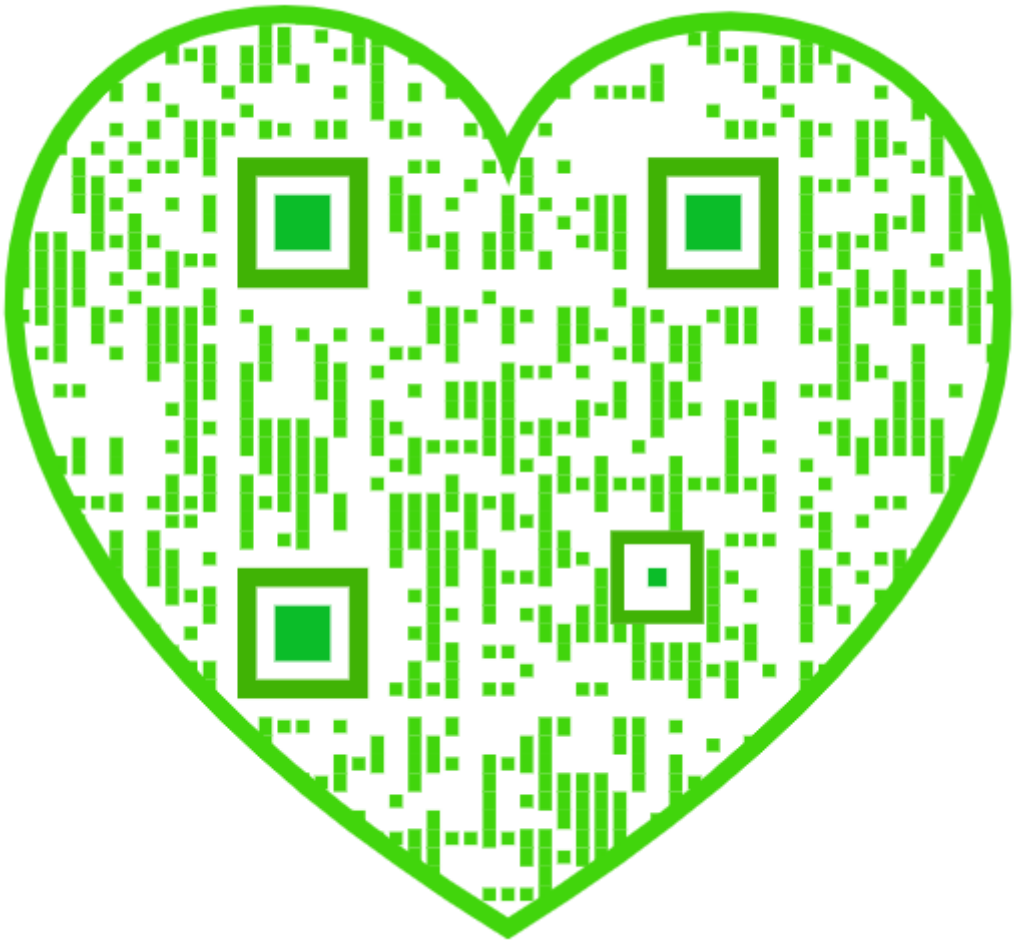

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SENATE COMMITTEE PRINT

TEACHING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

PAMPHLET

PREPARED BY THE

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE ON AMERICANIZATION

ON THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC, PAROCHIAL, AND OTHER PRIVATE SCHOOLS, AND TO NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING ADULTS

19-26527

Printed for the use of the Committee on Education and Labor

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FOREWORD.

The following statement can not be questioned by any patriotic American, viz, that all our citizens of whatever race should be able to converse and do business together in one common language is vitally essential for good citizenship and for the well-being and the preservation of a form of government like ours, the security of whose foundations rest solely on the sound public opinion of the electorate.

There is no one thing so supremely essential to a Government such as ours, where decisions of such importance must be made by public opinion, as that every man and woman and child shall know one tongue, that each may speak to every other and that all may be informed. (Secretary Lane's annual report, just issued.)

This pamphlet is compiled and printed primarily for the information of the citizens of New Hampshire with reference to some of the first steps taken in the attempt to provide that every man, woman, and child in this State shall be able to speak, read, write, and understand our national language—English.

The work of this committee and of the State department of public instruction is intimately related—in many respects identical. We have jointly undertaken the development of evening schools in the larger cities and towns, using modern methods of teaching. Under the arrangements now being perfected, some of which are shown herein, the success of these schools throughout the State seems to be assured. A full report of the development of our evening schools will be published in the near future.

It is believed that the special work of this committee should be continued by a department of the State public-school system, created by and acting under legislative authority.

STATE HOUSE,
Concord, December, 1918.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE ON AMERICANIZATION, COOPERATING WITH STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, STATEHOUSE, CONCORD.

Frank S. Streeter, Concord, chairman.
E. W. Butterfield, Concord, Superintendent of Public Instruction.
Richard W. Cooney, Portsmouth, President New Hampshire Federation of Labor.
Miss Harriett L. Huntress, Concord, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction, Chairman Women's Committee on Americanization.
Mrs. R. W. Husband, Concord, Field Supervisor, Red Cross Home Service.
Henri T. Ledoux, Nashua, Lawyer, United States Postmaster.
Wilfrid J. Lessard, Manchester, Lawyer.
Right Rev. Edward M. Parker, Concord, Bishop of New Hampshire (Episcopal).
F. W. Rahmanopp, Berlin, Superintendent Brown Co. (Berlin Mills).
Rev. P. J. Scott, Exeter, Diocesan Superintendent Parochial Schools in New Hampshire.
Winfield L. Shaw, Manchester, Vice President and General Manager W. H. McElwain Co.
William C. Swallow, Manchester, Employment Manager, Amoskeag Manufacturing Co.
Ralph C. Fitts, Manchester, Secretary, Publicity Secretary W. H. McElwain Co.
Maro S. Brooks, Executive Secretary, Superintendent Schools, Exeter.

TEACHING OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

New Hampshire Committee on Americanization.

CORRESPONDENCE OF COMMITTEE WITH RIGHT REV. GEORGE ALBERT GUERTIN, D. D., BISHOP OF MANCHESTER.

State House,
Concord, N. H., July 26, 1918.

Right Rev. George Albert Guertin, D. D.,
Bishop of Manchester, Manchester, N. H.

My Dear Bishop Guertin: We inclose for your use an advance and confidential copy of the program of this committee to be generally distributed about August 20.

The appointment and authority of this committee as a subcommittee of our New Hampshire committee on public safety, upon the initiative of the Federal Government through the United States Bureau of Education, what the term "Americanization" means, the work of the committee and the methods by which it hopes to accomplish results, are also set forth in the program.

It is sent to you as the head, in this State, of a great historic church whose followers number about one-quarter of our entire people and whose wholesome influence over its communicants is deservedly great and useful. You are also the head of a system of parochial schools which are said to number nearly 20,000 pupils, or almost one-quarter of the total number of children of school age in the State. It is also sent to you as an American citizen whose earnest desire must be to promote the highest and best type of citizenship in our common country.

Among other things you will agree that it is vitally essential for such citizenship and for the well-being and perhaps the preservation of our form of government that every man, woman, and child in New Hampshire shall be able to speak, read, write, and understand our national language.

We urgently need the powerful influence and the sympathetic and earnest cooperation of yourself as a stalwart American citizen as well as bishop of the Catholic diocese of New Hampshire, and of all the members of your church in this State.

Speaking for your people in New Hampshire, will you not exert that influence and give us that kind of cooperation?

An early affirmative reply will greatly aid us. We await that reply with confidence that this great public work merits and will receive your cordial approbation.

The committee has asked Mr. Wilfrid J. Lessard, of Manchester, to submit the foregoing to you and receive your personal reply for the committee. Believe me,

Very sincerely, yours,

Frank S. Streeter,
Chairman for Committee.

STATE HOUSE,
Concord, N. H., July 26, 1918.

Right Rev. GEORGE ALBERT GUERTIN, D. D.,
Bishop of Manchester, Manchester, N. H.

MY DEAR BISHOP GUERTIN: On page 2 of this committee's program to be distributed about August 20—an advance and confidential copy being inclosed herewith—you will find copy of the four fundamental principles adopted at the Washington meeting called by Secretary Lane and held on April 3 last. Among these you will note the following:

4. That in all schools where elementary subjects are taught they should be taught in the English language only.

This action initiated by our Federal Government to be made applicable in all the States, is in conformity with our New Hampshire statutes that the common English branches shall be taught in English only.

In the application of that principle to the conduct of the elementary schools in New Hampshire, including all parochial schools, the following statement is suggested as one that may be properly approved and carried out by all having charge or control of such schools, namely:

1. That in the instruction of children in all schools, including private schools, in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, physiology, history, civil government, music, and drawing, the English language shall be used exclusively, both for the purposes of instruction therein and for purposes of general administration.
2. The exclusive use of English for purposes of instruction and administration is not intended to prohibit the conduct of devotional exercises in private schools in a language other than English.
3. A foreign language may be taught in elementary schools provided the course of study (or its equivalent) outlined by the New Hampshire department of public instruction in the common English branches—that is, in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, physiology, history, civil government, music, and drawing—be not abridged but be taught in compliance with the law of the State.

We would be glad to have you, as the head of our parochial schools in New Hampshire, examine this general statement as it is made relative to the instruction and general administration in such schools and give this committee your approval of its general adoption for all the New Hampshire schools.

The foregoing statement has been prepared after several conferences with prominent Catholic laymen interested in the parochial schools, and with Mr. Butterfield, the State superintendent of public instruction, and has the indorsement of the State superintendent, of these laymen, and of this committee, and we hope you will find it so drawn that you will be able to give it your cordial approval. Believe me,

Very sincerely, yours,

FRANK S. STREETER,
Chairman.

BISHOP'S HOUSE, 145 LOWELL STREET,
Manchester, N. H., July 31, 1918.

Hon. FRANK S. STREETER,
Concord, N. H.

HONORABLE AND DEAR SIR: The right reverend bishop directs me to write that Wilfrid J. Lessard, Esq., of Manchester, has delivered to him two letters from you in regard to plans for Americanization.

The right reverend bishop, who has been absent on account of episcopal visitation, wishes me to say that he heartily indorses the contents of your letter and that his personal letter expressing his approbation will be sent to you in a few days through Wilfrid J. Lessard, Esq. I beg to remain, honorable and dear sir,

Yours, sincerely,

J. S. BUCKLEY, D. C. L.,
Chancellor.

BISHOP'S HOUSE, 145 LOWELL STREET,
Manchester, N. H., August 2, 1918.

Hon. FRANK S. STREETER,
Chairman New Hampshire Committee on Americanization,
State House, Concord, N. H.

HONORABLE AND DEAR MR. STREETER: I am in receipt, at the hands of Wilfrid J. Lessard, Esq., of Manchester, of your communications dated July 26, 1918, with inclosures.

In reply to your communications I would state that the Bishop of Manchester may be relied upon always to give his cordial approval and his staunch support to any movement that may help to make men practical Christians and loyal citizens. Any action that may assist parents to bring up their children in the fear and love of God and in respect for and obedience to all lawfully constituted authority must have the encouragement and influence of every Catholic bishop.

As true education should procure for man the means of developing his whole being in the attainment of the end for which he was destined by the Creator and as man is a composite being, in whom the body is the handmaid of the soul, so education, while not neglecting the means requisite for a man's physical and mental well-being, must provide means for his moral training. Such education has for its basic principle the words of our Divine Master: "Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's; and to God the things that are God's." And obedience to this fundamental principle begets not only true love and sincere service of God, but also loyal citizenship and self-sacrificing patriotism. For in the light of this principle the very acquittal of our obligations toward the State and the Nation is truly the fulfillment of a duty toward Almighty God Himself.

Therefore, as the bishop of Manchester, with the responsibility for the souls of the citizens of our great State committed to my care, with the obligation, as a citizen, of serving God by seeking the welfare of our State and our Nation, I most cordially approve of and willingly lend my cooperation to any movement in accordance with the fundamental principle of education, "Render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's; and to God, the things that are God's."

I have read carefully, dear Mr. Chairman, the three articles namely:

1. That in the instruction of children in all schools, including private schools, in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, physiology, history, civil government, music and drawing, the English language shall be used exclusively, both for the purposes of instruction therein and for purposes of general administration.

2. The exclusive use of English for purposes of instruction and administration is not intended to prohibit the conduct of devotional exercises in private schools in a language other than English.

3. A foreign language may be taught in elementary schools provided the course of study (or its equivalent) outlined by the New Hampshire department of public instruction in the common English branches—that is, in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, physiology, history, civil government, music, and drawing—be not abridged but be taught in compliance with the law of the State.

By which the fourth general principle on Americanization, namely—

4. That in all schools where elementary subjects are taught they should be taught in the English language only—

is explained and interpreted by the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization, and to that explanation and interpretation of the fourth principle on Americanization by the New Hampshire committee, I give my cordial approval for adoption in all New Hampshire schools. I am, honorable and dear Mr. Streeter,

Yours, sincerely,

GEORGE ALBERT GUERTIN,
Bishop of Manchester.

STATE HOUSE,
Concord, N. H., August 14, 1918.

Right Rev. GEORGE ALBERT GUERTIN, D. D.,
Bishop of Manchester, Manchester, N. H.

MY DEAR BISHOP GUERTIN: I have yours of the 2d instant, assuring this committee of your earnest and sympathetic aid in carrying on its work; also expressing your cordial approval of the principle adopted at Washington (4. That in all schools where elementary subjects are taught, they should be taught in the English language only) as the same is explained and interpreted in the three articles submitted in ours of the 26th ultimo.

In behalf of the committee, let me express our gratification at your assurance of a sympathetic support for our general work; also that a mutual understanding so harmonious and satisfactory to all concerned has been reached with reference to the question of teaching English in all our schools.

Very truly, yours,

FRANK S. STREETER, *Chairman.*

APPOINTMENT OF DIOCESAN SUPERINTENDENT OF PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS.

On October 13, 1918, Right Rev. Bishop Guertin informed the chairman of the Committee on Americanization that he had appointed Rev. P. J. Scott, rector of St. Michael's Church, Exeter, N. H., to the office of diocesan superintendent of parochial schools throughout the State of New Hampshire, closing his letter with the following statement:

I feel satisfied that, with a thorough understanding and a sympathetic willingness to work together in harmony, there exists no reason why the public and parochial schools of New Hampshire can not place our beloved State in the foremost rank in matters educational and patriotic.

REPORT OF CONFERENCE ON EVENING SCHOOLS, OCTOBER 31, 1918.

On October 31 a conference of school superintendents, chairmen of school boards, and others was held at Representatives' Hall, State House, Concord, the Right Rev. Bishop Guertin being represented at that conference by the Rev. J. S. Buckley, D. C. L., chancellor of the diocese of Manchester, and by the Rev. P. J. Scott, diocesan superintendent of parochial schools in New Hampshire.

The notice of the conference stated that there would be a thorough consideration of the subject of evening schools and the use of effective modern methods in carrying on such schools successfully in this State; also that the Federal Government urges the maintenance of such schools for non-English speaking people as an essential part of the program of war and postwar activities.

Notice was also given that after lunch there would be an informal general discussion of the most effective modern methods of teaching and that Miss Mary Mugan, assistant superintendent of schools of Fall River, Mass., a highly competent and experienced expert, would organize a class from those present and practically exemplify such methods of teaching.

The Manchester Union of November 1 contained the following news report of the conference:

Impression of a Going Concern.

FEATURE OF BIG AMERICANIZATION CONFERENCE HELD AT CONCORD.

Concord, *October 31.*

The State department of public instruction, religion, industry, Dartmouth College, organized la bor, and many other interests of great influence were represented at a meeting in epresentatives' Hall and the Eagle Hotel to-day, called and presided over by Ge Frank S. Streeter, chairman on Americanization, and devoted to a discussion o Americanization through the teaching of English to the new Americans, who used to be called "foreigners."

In a day packed with interesting things, the special feature was an exemplification of modern evening school methods of teaching English by Miss Mary Mugan, assistant superintendent of schools of Fall River, Mass., a most illuminating demonstration, in which the audience was carried right through a lesson in a way calculated to fix it in mind.

The meeting opened at 11 o'clock in Representatives' Hall and was attended by a large number of instructors and superintendents and representatives of the church and of industry. It was at once a general meeting, a conference, and a school of instruction.

Gen. Streeter spoke briefly, explaining the work of the Committee on Americanization in New Hampshire, developing the idea that the teaching of English to the foreign-speaking peoples is the first step toward their complete Americanization, and outlining the process by which the work of the committee had been built up around the State department of public instruction. He then called upon the State superintendent, E. W. Butterfield.

Mr. Butterfield's brief talk was, in a way, a revelation. It was addressed to the teachers and superintendents present and proceeded upon the assumption that the machinery of education in English was already in operation. His was a practical talk on methods of procedure to men already at work and was calculated to give the impression that was deepened as the meeting went on.

The superintendent was followed by M. S. Brooks, of Exeter, who is organizing the work of the committee in the schools and who gave another practical talk, amplifying and applying certain general principles outlined by the superintendent. Then he answered questions, and once more the idea of a going concern was pressed home. The questions were numerous, practical, and pointed—questions of men who are at work.

Ralph C. Fitts, of Manchester, a member of the committee staff and connected with one of the greater industries, the McElwain concern, spoke to the industrial employers present, showing their part in the Americanization undertaking.

MANCHESTER'S PROGRAM.

Then Superintendent of Schools Herbert L. Taylor, of Manchester, gave a most interesting account of the process by which Manchester has prepared to go into this business in a big way and to open its evening schools within a few days with a staff of more than 200 carefully selected teachers who have taken a normal course in the modern methods of teaching English. He closed a thoroughly enjoyable and informing familiar talk with the vigorous remark that if with the people in their present state of mind and with all the forces available for pushing of the evening schools and the English-teaching program through to success, the thing is not done now, it can't be done for many years to come.

And throughout the superintendent's stirring talk this idea that the thing was going got firmer hold.

At its close Gen. Streeter invited his guests to the Eagle Hotel for luncheon, and it was at the tables that one got the idea of pretty much the whole State back of this movement. When one saw the superintendent of public instruction, the Episcopal bishop of New Hampshire, the chancellor of the Catholic diocese and the superintendent of the Catholic parochial schools the president of Dartmouth College, representatives of organized labor and of the Federation of Women's Clubs the general manager of the McElwain plant in Manchester, representatives of the Amoskeag Manufacturing Co., the president of the Manchester Board of Commerce, the president and secretary of the New Hampshire Manufacturers' Association, and scores of other men and women, all representative all connected with organizations or institutions of immense influence and all gathered around the head of the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization, one could not escape the idea of a tremendous force at work.

Luncheon over, Gen. Streeter introduced Miss Mugan, whose instructive talk has already been referred to. At its close the speaker answered literally scores of questions.

Miss Mugan was followed by Rev. Father P. J. Scott, superintendent of parochial schools in New Hampshire, who gave a fine talk on the general theme of fair play for the new Americans and a spirit of cooperation with them. In the course of his stirring remarks he made one of the hits of the whole day with the remark that "we must begin by Americanizing the Americans," getting all Americans to understand that America is greater than any of its racial stocks.

President Hopkins of Dartmouth, followed with a brief, pithy address filled with illustrations of the practical effects of Americanization by process of education in English observed by him in the course of his service as assistant to the Secretary of War in the military camps the steel mills and in his dealings with the trade-unions that promote English speaking. He closed with a statement of the two theories of education, one of which would highly cultivate the select few, the other concerning itself with the leveling up of the mass and took the ground that in America both could be operative, but that the latter is of prime importance.

The last speaker was W. L. Shaw general manager of the McElwain plant in Manchester who gave a typical after-dinner talk, packed with pleasantries but deeply serious in undertone, and built around the idea of the responsibility resting upon the employers of men to deal with their men as men.

Concerning this conference the following editorial appeared in the Manchester Union November 1.

FOR AMERICA.

Dull indeed were he who could sit through yesterday's meeting in Concord, listen to the burning words of men and women who are working for America by striving for the Americanization of all her new sons and daughters, and not visualize a finer America as all our people are gradually brought to the knowledge of a common tongue. But there were no dull minds there, and the vision came to and laid hold upon all those earnest men and women.

Somehow, we never go to one of these Concord meetings that we do not associate it with that other great gathering in Representatives' Hall, almost on the eve of the declaration, in March, 1917,[1] when the New Hampshire Legislature, and hundreds of New Hampshire's sons and daughters, passed out of peace into war—when the

[1] Referring to the memorable meeting in Representatives' Hall on March 20, 1917, at which the Hon. George W. Wickersham, upon invitation of both houses of the the New Hampshire Legislature, and under the auspices of the New Hampshire Defense League, gave a most thrilling address on the necessity of "Preparedness" and aroused the entire State to the urgent need of providing for the national defense.

State entered the war. Then our thoughts were upon preparedness, recruiting, food, munitions, coming battles, death and wounds, boundless charity for relief work—everything relating to war. Who of us on that wonderful day so much as thought of the splendid things that were coming to us because of the war, of the new brotherhood, the new fellowship of service, the new joy of giving? Who among us so much as thought that in a few months we should see, as a direct result of the war, the beginnings of an organized movement, backed by every influence for good in the whole State, looking to the closer union of all our people by familiarity with a common speech?

Yet this is what we saw yesterday, and it is the aspect of the support of the movement that we wish to speak about. It is solid. Yesterday's meeting enabled us to see this. The State, acting through its department of public instruction; the Catholic Church, that ministers to the spiritual needs of most of our foreign-speaking new Americans; the industries of the State, that employ most of them; the Protestant Church, represented yesterday by its Episcopal bishop; Dartmouth College, whose president addressed the meeting, not only as college president, but also as assistant to the Secretary of War in charge of industrial relations; organized labor, and many other institutions were represented there. All these powerful influences are back of and cooperating with the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization.

This thing is no longer a dream. It is a fact. The State, religion, education, industry, and labor are mustering their forces and throwing them into the work of leading our new Americans into a knowledge of our speech. To this array of strength may be added the press of New Hampshire, for which we feel at perfect liberty to speak. With all these forces for good going out to meet our people who are seeking the way to the full benefits of Amercian citizenship, what can prevent the gradual dissemination of a knowledge of the English tongue among our entire foreign-speaking population through the media of the day schools, public and parochial, and evening schools especially equipped for this purpose?

And it may be said that our own New Hampshire is already well on the way to taking a place among the first rank of States in this work for America. It is splendid.

RIGHT REV. BISHOP GUERTIN'S LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CLERGY OF HIS DIOCESE.

One of the most progressive and history-making documents of our day, looking to the carrying of the great lessons of the war into the days of peace, is the letter of instructions sent to all the priests of the diocese by Right Rev. George Albert Guertin, Roman Catholic bishop of Manchester, under date of November 15, 1918. Since July the Committee on Americanization has been in close relations with Bishop Guertin regarding the teaching of English in the parochial schools. The bishop's letter, which is printed below, establishes for the parochial schools of the diocese a uniform course of studies patterned after the requirements of the State department of public instruction and based upon the interpretation of the fourth principle of Americanization adopted by the committee, the State superintendent of public instruction, and the bishop, and mutually agreed upon as a working basis for the application of said principle in all New Hampshire schools.

BISHOP'S HOUSE,
Manchester, N. H., November 15, 1918.

REVEREND AND DEAR FATHER: The advent of peace and the complete vindication of the fundamental principles for whose defense our beloved country entered the world war are subjects for the expression of our fervent gratitude to the God of all justice to whom nations, not less than individuals, must render an account. Toward the attainment of this glorious achievement the faithful of our diocese have contributed an honorable share, a record of loyalty and generosity in which their zealous pastors may take a legitimate pride.

We are convinced that in all measures designed to perpetuate the blessings thus secured to our country, the same spirit of loyal cooperation will be ever manifest. To one of these measures we wish to direct your particular and prompt attention.

The movement of Americanization having for its object "to unite in a common citizenship under one flag all the peoples of America" is a movement to which every one who makes his home within the borders of the United States must subscribe. From the State House you have received a copy of the program of the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization, and for that document we bespeak your earnest and prayerful study. To bring about the desired union, the ability of all who dwell permanently within our State to speak a common language—English—is a necessary first step. To this end we would urge all pastors to encourage attendance at evening school by all parishioners who may be wanting in knowledge of the English tongue.

The position of our parochial schools in this matter is clearly set forth in the correspondence between the bishop of Manchester and the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization, through its chairman, Hon. Frank S. Streeter. Therein you will find the fourth fundamental principle of Americanization adopted at a meeting of the governors and chairmen of committees on public safety, called by Secretary Lane and held in Washington on April 3, 1918, namely, "that in all schools where elementary subjects are taught they should be taught in the English language only," clearly explained and interpreted by the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization and the State superintendent of public instruction, approved by the Bishop as explained and interpreted and mutually agreed upon as a working basis for the application of said principle in all New Hampshire schools. This interpretation is as follows:

"1. That in the instruction of children in all schools, including private schools, in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, physiology, history, civil government, music, and drawing, the English language shall be used exclusively, both for the purposes of instruction therein and for purposes of general administration.

"2. The exclusive use of English for purposes of instruction and administration is not intended to prohibit the conduct of devotional exercises in private schools in a language other than English.

"3. A foreign language may be taught in elementary schools provided the course of study (or its equivalent) outlined by the New Hampshire department of public instruction in the common English branches—that is, in reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic, grammar, geography, physiology, history, civil government, music, and drawing—be not abridged but taught in compliance with the laws of the State."

These three articles as approved by us admit of no evasion or equivocation. They are intended to serve as the foundation of a working program for our schools and their incorporation into that program demands the surrender of nothing that is vital to the well-being and progress of any Catholic school. Due provision is made for religious instruction and for the teaching of any language that may be desired in addition to the course of studies (or its equivalent) outlined by the New Hampshire department of public instruction.

This program must be carried out in all the schools of our diocese, and we charge the conscience of pastors and all others having the care of schools to take whatever steps may be necessary to put it into execution as promptly as conditions will permit. A full measure of good will on your part and reasonable time will solve all problems of detail which may arise. In all such problems both pastors and teachers may look to the Rev. P. J. Scott, diocesan superintendent of schools, for sympathetic aid and direction. To him we have delegated full authority for the supervision of all schools within our diocese. He is hereby directed and empowered to make an immediate and complete survey of the school situation and, after full consultation with the reverend pastors and heads of schools, to formulate a universal course of studies to be followed by all primary schools under our jurisdiction. The important work thus confided to him Father Scott takes up in obedience to authority and with the sole desire to promote the welfare of church and State. To the end that such service may produce the beneficial results to which we all look forward, the diocesan superintendent of schools must be given by all with whom he is to labor the attention and cooperation consonant with the responsibilities of his office.

Your humble servant in Christ,

GEORGE ALBERT GUERTIN,
Bishop of Manchester.

JEREMIAH S. BUCKLEY, D. C. L.,
Chancellor.

Coincident with the publication of the foregoing letter from Bishop Guertin in the newspapers of the State, the Manchester Union contained the following editorial under date of November 20:

AN HISTORIC EVENT.

It is with pleasure that the Union records to-day the first constructive act looking to the application of the great lessons of the war to the problems of the coming days of peace—the history-making order of the bishop of the diocese of Manchester requiring the use of the English language for instruction in a State-wide parochial course of study patterned after that required by the State department of public instruction, while still preserving the use of foreign languages for instruction in these languages and for the purposes of devotion.

We hardly got into the war when it ended, and the question whether or not we had been really gripped by the conflict, really moved by it so that we should be profoundly affected by it, arose instantly upon the signing of the armistice. Here is the first answer to the question. While we are still in the partial bewilderment of surprise, and have hardly grasped the fact of peace, it develops that the vision of "a common citizenship, under one flag, of all the peoples of America," and of a common language, English, as a means of this union, has arisen as an attainable thing before the eyes of the bishop of Manchester, and that in the days of the war he had so completely cleared away the primary obstacles to the realizing of the vision that he could signalize the return of peace by putting into effect his carefully made plans for a transformation of the educational process in the schools under his charge.

It is a matter of good hope that on the very threshold of peace there should be this great constructive act, at once incentive and precedent for others looking to the effecting of a "more perfect union" of the people of the United States.

There are so many aspects of this splendid act that one is almost at a loss to write upon it within the compass of a necessarily brief editorial article, but one stands out so conspicuously as to compel admiring comment. The basic need for the welding of our polyglot people into a new union founded in knowledge of a common tongue, a need long understood, became imperative once we faced war. The situation need not be reviewed—we are all familiar with it. The fine fact to get firmly in mind is that once the problem took shape, the men of New Hampshire upon whom the solution necessarily devolved set about their task. With statesmanlike vision, with unmeasured good will, with high purpose to seek and attain that which should be of lasting good to the individual, the State, and the Nation, the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization and the leader of the Catholic Church, whose spiritual charges are vitally concerned, worked hand in hand through months of painstaking study and preparatory labor, and in the end achieved a result which places New Hampshire in the very front rank of the Americanization movement.

It is true that the result achieved is but the beginning of results. The educational plan remains to be applied. What lies ahead is a process. The full fruitage of the tree that is being planted in this our day will be gathered by men of other days. But a definite beginning has been made. For the good of church and state, for the good of countless boys and girls, for America, that has been done which in the course of time will give to every child in New Hampshire the benefits of a standardized elementary education, and a practical working knowledge of the language of the Nation's laws and business intercourse. We believe that in the coming days men will look back upon this week as the beginning of a new era in New Hampshire.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE ON AMERICANIZATION,
STATE HOUSE,
Concord, December 5, 1918.

A careful reading of the correspondence of this committee with Bishop Guertin and the letter of November 15 from the bishop to all the priests of his diocese leaves no doubt as to the meaning and intent of all parties. The following editorial by George L. Kibbee is taken from the Manchester Union of November 21, 1918:

HOW IT WORKS OUT.

The first impression made by Bishop Guertin's letter to the priests of the diocese, relative to the new educational plan for the parochial schools is that of its immense significance—then certain questions arise. How is the plan going to work out? Does it take anything away from anybody? Does it relate to religion? Does it require

that we become a people of only one speech? And all these and many more questions are answered by the history-making document.

In the first place, the Americanization program explicitly safeguards the religious beliefs and practices of those concerned. The working agreement contains a clause which provides that the exclusive use of English in instruction in the standardized course, and for administrative purposes is not intended to prohibit the conduct of devotional exercises in a language other than English.

Nor is it intended—let us say, it is not desired—to discourage in any way the use of foreign tongues. The purpose is not to restrict Americans to one language—it is simply to make them all familiar with one language, that of our laws. We desire that all the others shall be preserved, and that their enriching influences may be exerted upon our society and our literature.

The educational plan takes nothing from anybody. It asks nobody to give up the language of his racial stock, or the literature that enshrines the ideas and ideals of his people. It gives, instead of taking. It adds a language to the mental equipment of those who are benefited by it and takes none away. It will make no man smaller, narrower, less competent in any way, but will make broader and more competent by adding a useful tool to the working outfit of many of our men.

Resolutions of New Hampshire Federation of Labor in support of work of New Hampshire Committee on Americanization, adopted at annual meeting, Keene, N. H., July 18, 1918.

Whereas the Federal Government has intrusted to the United States Bureau of Education a more thorough Americanization of our foreign-born people, and at the request of the Bureau of Education our New Hampshire Committee on Public Safety has created a Committee on Americanization to carry on this important work in New Hampshire, and

Whereas said committee is acting in close cooperation with the State department of public instruction in preparing plans to carry out the following general proposals which were adopted at a meeting called by Secretary Lane and held in Washington on April 3, 1918, namely:

"1. The adoption of the policy that the Federal Government should cooperate with States and through the States with the local communities in carrying on an extensive, intensive, and immediate program of Americanization through education, especially for non-English-speaking, foreign-born adults.

"2. That the industries employing large numbers of non-English-speaking, foreign-born persons should cooperate with local communities, State and Federal Governments in carrying out this proposition.

"3. That adequate appropriations should be provided by the Congress to be expended through appropriate Governmental agencies for the foregoing purposes.

"4. That in all schools where elementary subjects are taught they should be taught in the English language only."

Let us not go wrong in our thinking at this point. There is neither purpose nor desire to lose the foreign languages out of our American life. It is the purpose of the educational plan in which the diocese is cooperating to promote the essential union of Americans by enabling all of them to converse, and do business together in one common language. Its purpose is to enrich as well as to unify American life, not to impoverish it.

The foregoing so clearly and sympathetically interprets the spirit as well as the letter of the written words that we reprint it here as a definite and complete expression of the understanding of all concerned.

FRANK S. STREETER,
Chairman Americanization Committee.
ERNEST W. BUTTERFIELD,
State Superintendent of Public Instruction.
REV. P. J. SCOTT,
Diocesan Superintendent of Parochial Schools.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the New Hampshire Federation of Labor in convention assembled, That this federation most heartily indorse the foregoing proposals adopted at said Washington meeting and pledge our cordial support to the Committee on Americanization and the public-school officials in their efforts to carry said proposals into practical effect in New Hampshire.

2. That this federation and its officers will urge all its members to encourage all non-English-speaking in this State to read, write, and speak English; to influence, so far as practicable, every present member of our local unions, who does not speak English, to register at a night school; to urge upon school and city authorities their support of the educational program suggested by the Americanization Committee of the State of New Hampshire.

3. That the incoming executive board be instructed by the convention to recommend rules that all future applicants for membership in affiliated local unions shall be encouraged to speak and read or write the English language understandingly.

4. And be it further

Resolved, That the executive board be instructed to cooperate with the New Hampshire Americanization Committee.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.
RICHARD W. COONEY, *President.*
CHARLES H. BEAN, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

SIGNIFICANT ACTION OF NEW YORK STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

At the Fifty-fifth annual convention of the New York State Federation of Labor, recently held at Rochester, N. Y., the following rule or principle was adopted on recommendation of the Committee on Education, viz:

Acquisition of a fair knowledge of the American language by continuous shop and school instruction, supervised by State educational authorities, to be required of all employed foreign-language aliens, as a condition of continued employment.

RESOLUTIONS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

On December 5, 1918, the following resolutions were adopted by the executive committee of the New Hampshire Manufacturers' Association, with the approval of the board of directors:

Resolved, That the New Hampshire Manufacturers' Association heartily indorses the fundamental principle that the industries of the State of New Hampshire should do everything in their power to bring about as rapidly as possible the condition that all employees should be able to speak, read, write, and understand the English language.

2. That the manufacturers of New Hampshire stand ready and willing to cooperate with the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization, with the schools, and with all other public activities in this direction.

3. That the manufacturers do this, recognizing that such a position is justified not only on social grounds but because it is for the welfare of the manufacturing industries themselves and for their future success that such a condition should be brought about.

NEW HAMPSHIRE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.
F. P. LYONS, *President.*
FRANK A. FRENCH, *Secretary.*

Resolutions of the Association Canado-Américaine,[1] approving the work of the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization, adopted at a meeting of the high court, Manchester, N. H., December 11, 1918:

Whereas the Association Canado-Américaine by its constitution, article 3, section A, proclaims that one of its objects is "to unite in common action people of French descent with a view to their religious, social, and economical development";

Whereas the Americanization movement aims to unite in one civic spirit all the citizens of the Republic by means of a common language, English;

[1] The Association Canado-Américaine is the largest Franco-American fraternal order in New Hampshire. It has a total membership of 13,000 men and women, 8,000 of whom are residents in this State. The headquarters are in Manchester and local courts are organized in practically all of the French-speaking groups in New Hampshire. It has already appointed a committee on Americanization, composed of its ablest executives, and its sympathetic cooperation with the State committee, as above provided for, can not fail to promote greatly the success of the Americanization work in this State.

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Whereas the interpretation and application of the principl
conform to the aims of the Association Canado-Américaine;
Whereas it befits a Catholic society to follow the leadership of it
American society to affirm both its American patriotism and its fidelity to its origin:

Resolved, That the high court of the Association Canado-Américaine assembled at Manchester on the 11th day of December, 1918, gives its approval to the program of Americanization as set forth in the correspondence between the Right Rev. George Albert Guertin and the Hon. Frank S. Streeter, chairman of the New Hampshire Committee on Americanization.

Resolved, That the Association Canado-Américaine desires the organization of evening schools and urges attendance on the part of those who would profit thereby.

Resolved, That through its official organ, Le Canado-Américaine and in its public meetings, the Association Canado-Américaine strive to promote the work of Americanization as interpreted by civil and religious authority.

A. A. E. BRIEN, M. D.,
General President.
HENRI LANGELIER,
General Secretary

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